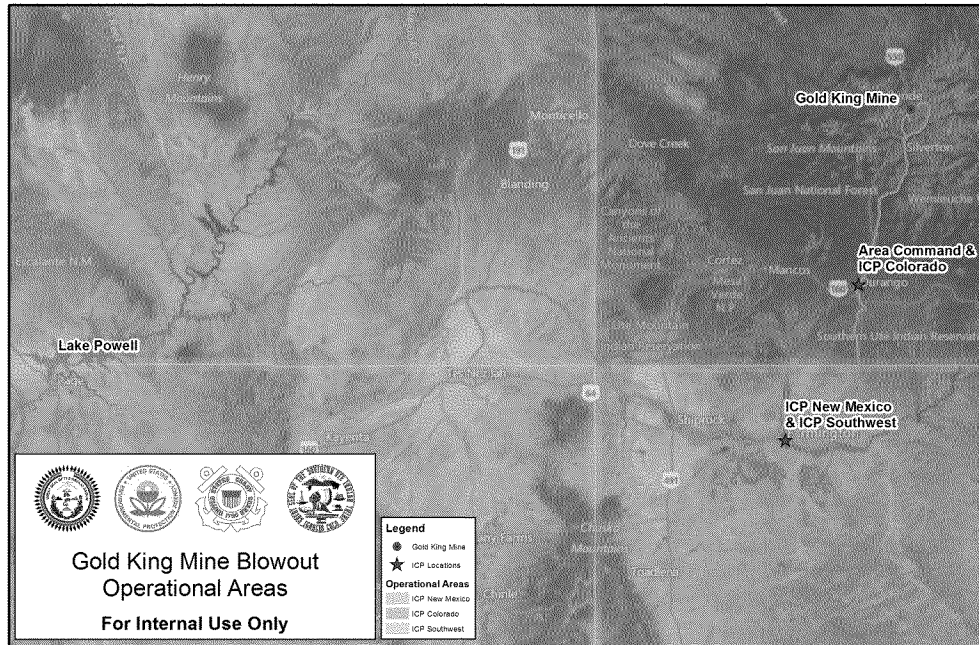


U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
AREA COMMAND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY / SITUATION REPORT
2015 Gold King Mine Release



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
Area Command (EPA Regions 8, 6, and 9)



EXECSUM / SITREP #3
Gold King Mine Release

Subject:

San Juan County, Colorado
Latitude: 37.8945 Longitude: -107.6384

From: Area Command Situation Unit

Date: 08/14/2015

Reporting Period: 08/13/15 0700 through 08/14/15 0700

Website: epa.gov/goldkingmine

Executive Summary

For Internal Use Only
Gold King Mine Release
EPA Executive Summary: August 14, 2015 1900

Situation Summary

EPA Area Command (AC), comprised of EPA Regions 6, 8, and 9 is continuing strategic management over the three Unified Incident Command Posts.

Highlights, Key Updates/ Changes

- The AC established a reporting schedule of 1200 MDT for situation reports and data from EPA Regions 6, 8, and 9.
- The AC continues to work on the monitoring, data capture and messaging on the flushing of irrigation ditches being conducted by local private irrigation management groups.
- The AC worked with EPA administrators to complete the press releases related to river openings for recreational use, and lifting of restrictions on drinking water and agricultural water use in portions of the response area.

Area Command Emphasis

For the next operational period, the AC command's emphasis will be:

- To develop a wider message that river conditions are returning to normal in the Region 8 portion of the response area. This will include the development of Question and Answer sheets and fact sheets.
- To prepare for visits scheduled next week by Congressional members and OSWER Headquarters personnel.
- To develop a plan to consolidate data from the various call centers and establish a central database for this call data.
- To minimize fatigue of response and IMT personnel and to provide CISM.
- To conduct safety risk management and mitigation practices.

Note: The metrics provided in this SITREP represent quantities reported in the EPA Region 6, 8, and 9 SITREPs for work completed on Thursday, August 13, 2015.

1 Introduction

On August 5, while investigating the Gold King Mine in Colorado, an EPA cleanup team triggered a release of mine wastewater into Cement Creek. The EPA is working closely with

responders and local, state and tribal officials to monitor water contaminated by the release. The release's path flows through three of the EPA's regions - Region 8 (Colorado, Utah, Southern Ute Tribe, and Ute Mountain Ute Tribe); Region 6 (New Mexico), and Region 9 (Navajo Nation). EPA has activated its Emergency Operations System to ensure coordination among its regions, laboratories and national program offices in Washington, D.C. The EPA has also set up an incident command center in Durango, CO. The EPA is coordinating with officials in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Southern Ute Tribe and Navajo Nation and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe.

2 Operations

2.2 Sampling Operations

Operations sampling activities for August 13, 2015 are summarized below.

Table 1 – Operation Sampling Activities (August 13, 2015)

Matrix	Region	August 13, 2015
Private Drinking Water Wells	Region 6	42
	Region 8	19
	Region 9	0
Surface Water Samples	Region 6	9
	Region 8	4
	Region 9	7
Sediment Samples	Region 6	39
	Region 8	12
	Region 9	7

Note: NR- No samples reported.

2.2 Water Distribution and Transportation Branch

Area Command continues to monitor potable water, agricultural water, and agricultural food deliveries. These activities are summarized below.

Table 2 – Public Support Summary

Activity	Region	August 13, 2015		Cumulative	
		Items	Quantity	Items	Quantity
Potable Water Deliveries	Region 6	NR	NR	NR	NR
	Region 8	0	0	9	58,200
	Region 9	0*	0*	0*	0*
Livestock / Agricultural Water Deliveries	Region 6	9	298,863	21	532,623
	Region 8	1	15,430	31	91,020
	Region 9	2	28,000	2	28,000
Agricultural Food Deliveries	Region 6	NR	NR	NR	NR
	Region 8	NR	NR	NR	NR
	Region 9	0	0	0	0

Notes: NR- No deliveries reported.

*Water deliveries in Region 9 are being handled by the Navajo Tribal Utility Authority.

2.3 Community Engagements

Community engagements reported for August 12, 2014 are presented below:

August 13, 2014		
Community Engagements	Region 6	2
	Region 8	1
	Region 9	1

2.4 Community Relations Branch

EPA Region 6- On August 13, 2015 the toll-free call-in number received 42 inquiries. Of those twenty-three calls dealt directly with Region 6.

EPA Region 8- As of 5:00 pm on August 13, 2015, the Call Center (970-385-8700) had received 659 calls. The EPA 800 Number has received 14 calls for Colorado.

EPA Region 9- EPA staff in Region 9 have completed a draft of text to be included in a factsheet encompassing EPA R9's response activities along the San Juan River.

3 Drinking Water System Impacts

Drinking water systems affected by the response as of August 13, 2015, and their status are summarized below:

Table 2 – Public Support Summary

Region	Number of Affected Water Systems	Population	Status
Region 6	8	80,392	All systems currently in operation.
Region 8	0	0	All systems currently in operation.
Region 9	0	0	All systems currently in operation.

4 Finance

Financial tracking for the response as of August 14, 2015 is summarized below:

Table 4 – Estimated Response Costs Reported as of August 14, 2015

Item	Cost
EPA Region 6 Payroll Costs	\$207,060
EPA Region 6 Travel Costs	\$28,750
EPA Region 6 Contracts	\$705,200
EPA Region 8 Payroll Costs	\$124,169
EPA Region 8 Travel Costs	\$55,399
EPA Region 8 Contracts	\$545,275
EPA Region 9 Payroll Costs	\$100,800
EPA Region 9 Travel Costs	\$26,250
EPA Region 9 Contracts	Not Reported
Other Costs	\$67,000
Total Estimated Response Costs to Date	\$1,859,903

5 Response Actions to Date

Response Actions to date may be found in previous SITREPS 1 and 2.

6 Participating Entities

Region 6

US EPA
USFWS
NMED
ATSDR
NM Department of Health
NM Office of the State Engineer
NM Department of Game and Fish
County of San Juan – New Mexico

Region 8

US EPA
USFWS
US Coast Guard
ERT
Colorado OEM
Southern Ute Tribe
La Plata County

San Juan County
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE)
Southwest IMT
City of Durango
Durango Fire Department
San Juan County Health Department

Region 9

US EPA
US Coast Guard
Navajo Nation

5 Personnel On-Site

Staffing numbers for the federal entities and agencies active in the response are presented in Table 5.

Table 5 - Personnel On-Site

Region	Agency / Entity	Number of Personnel
Area Command	U.S. EPA	17
	US. EPA Contractors	2
	U.S. Coast Guard	4
EPA Region 6	U.S. EPA Region 6	46
	US. EPA Region 6 Contractors	33
	U.S. Coast Guard	2
EPA Region 8	U.S. EPA Region 8	58
	US. EPA Region 8 Contractors	33
	U.S. Coast Guard	2
EPA Region 9	U.S. EPA Region 9	10
	US. EPA Region 9 Contractors	10
	U.S. Coast Guard	6
Total		223

6

Source of Additional Information

For additional information, refer to <http://www.epa.gov/>